**Discussion 1**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hrd0NiWMIjk> [3:13]

Content/background focused questions

1. Do you have any questions or confusion related to the content of this video?

How do we guarantee online course quality and cultural alignment?

How do we keep students motivated in online learning environments?

1. Who is the target population of online courses?

The target population of online courses includes students in low-resource settings who lack access to quality schools, adults seeking to reskill or continue their education, and traditional students who want supplemental learning. Teachers are also indirect beneficiaries, since online courses can provide them with resources and training. In short, the vision is that anyone with a smartphone or tablet could be part of the target group.

1. How does online study work today?

Online study today works mainly through platforms like Zoom, Canvas, or Coursera, where students watch recorded or live lectures, complete quizzes and assignments, and interact through forums or chat. Many courses use AI tools and mobile apps to give instant feedback, while universities and MOOCs provide digital certificates or badges. This mix of flexibility and technology makes learning accessible to a wide range of students.

1. What are the benefits of getting education through online teaching for women?

Online education offers women flexibility, affordability, safety, and access to global opportunities, empowering them to pursue careers and personal growth even in contexts where traditional education is hard to reach.

1. Why is there a gender imbalance of females and males in hard sciences?

The gender imbalance in hard sciences arises from a combination of cultural stereotypes, unequal encouragement in education, and structural barriers in workplaces. Women often face fewer role models, less support, and more pressure to balance family with demanding careers. These factors together make it harder for women to enter and remain in fields like physics, engineering, and computer science.

1. What are 2-3 questions you would like to ask your group related to this topic (opinion, disagreements, related topics, extension of this topic into another context, etc.)

Do you think online education will reduce or widen inequality for women and marginalized groups?

What is the most effective way to reduce the gender imbalance in STEM fields?

If online learning dominates by 2030, how will it change the roles of teachers and universities?